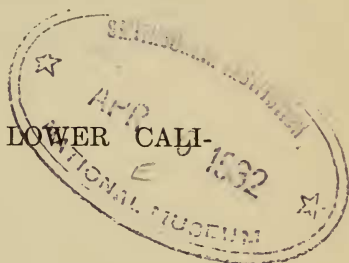


PROCEEDINGS
OF THE
BIOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF WASHINGTON

A NEW POCKET GOPHER FROM LOWER CALIFORNIA, MEXICO.

BY E. RAYMOND HALL.



In the course of installing, in the collection of the Museum of Vertebrate Zoology, recently accessioned California-taken material of the nearly-white pocket gopher, *Thomomys albatus* Grinnell, opportunity was taken to re-examine two strikingly small specimens from Las Palmas Cañon, Lower California, which I previously had regarded as young individuals. This closer examination revealed that one of the two was an adult and that in addition to small size there were other characters, some of a unique kind, which prevent identifying these animals with any previously named form. It may be known as

Thomomys bottae lucidus, new subspecies.

Type.—Female, adult, skin and skull; no. 39119, Mus. Vert. Zool.; Las Palmas Cañon, 200 feet altitude, west side of Laguna Salada (north of 32° N. latitude), Lower California, Mexico; October 30, 1927; collected by J. Elton Green, original no. 881.

Diagnosis.—Color near (g) light buff above and white below; size small (see measurements); interparietal wider than long; auditory bullae much inflated and evenly rounded anterolaterally.

Comparison.—As compared with *Thomomys albatus* Grinnell, its nearest relative, *lucidus* is even lighter colored, smaller in every measurement taken, has upper incisors more incurved, more widely separated temporal ridges, actually larger interparietal, more inflated auditory bullae which antero-laterally are evenly rounded rather than angular, and the zygomatic arch is only slightly, rather than greatly, thickened at the junction of the jugal and maxilla.

Remarks.—No specimen in the abundant material of *albatus* from numerous localities in California and Lower California shows a near approach in characters to *lucidus*, though collecting at selected places in the Laguna Salada and to the northeast of it probably will reveal intergrades.

Incidentally, it may be remarked that the extremely pale coloration of *lucidus* is in keeping with that of several other kinds of mammals obtained in Las Palmas Cañon all of which average a trifle lighter than do individuals of the same, or the nearly related, races from California territory near the mouth of the Colorado River.

Specimens examined.—Two from the type locality.

Measurements (in millimeters) of adult females of two subspecies of *Thomomys bottae*. Catalog numbers are those of the California Museum of Vertebrate Zoology. Nos. 39127-39131 are from five miles east of Cerro Prieto, 30 feet altitude, Lower California, Mexico.

	Total length	Length of tail	Length of hind foot	Basilar length	Greatest length of nasals	Zygomatic breadth	Mastoid breadth	Least inter-orbital breadth	Alveolar length of upper molars	Greatest breadth of rostrum
39119	202	64	30	30.1	11.9	20.8	18.0	6.7	7.8	7.2
10620	230	75	34	32.8	12.8	23.5	19.5	6.8	8.0	7.9
39127	230	60	34	34.9	14.2	25.7	20.6	6.8	8.5	8.5
39128	225	72	32	34.3	13.9	24.5	20.0	6.9	8.8	8.4
39129	235	85	34	34.0	13.8	24.5	19.9	6.4	8.0	7.7
39130	235	85	34	34.1	13.4	23.6	19.9	6.7	8.0	8.0
39131	239	73	33	32.9	12.5	24.0	20.2	6.8	8.0	8.1